(c) whether this dam is getting silted; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) At present, the following six thermal power stations with total installed capacity of 6827.5 MW are using water from the Rihand Dam Reservoir.

(i) Obra of Uttar Pradesh State Electricity Board (UPSEB)

(ii) Anpara of UPSEB

(iii) Singrauli of National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC)

(iv) Rihand of NTPC

(v) Vindhyachal of NTPC

(vi) Renusagar of Renusagar Power Company (Private sector captive plant).

(c) and (d). The siltation taking place at Rihand Dam is as per its design.

[English]

Expansion of Visakh Refinery

*761. SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHY:
SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO VADDE:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to increase the refining capacity of the Visakh Refinery of the Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited, Visakhapatnam; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) There is no such proposal with the Government.

(b) Does not arise.

Allotment of Wagons to Karnataka

*762 SHRIMATI BASAVARAJESWARI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Karnataka has been urging the Union Government to increase the allotment of wagons to that State;

(b) if so, the total number of wagons demanded and the number provided during 1990-91; and

(c) the steps being taken to fulfil the demand in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) Yes, Sir, for cement.

(b) Statewise particulars are not maintained.

(c) Demand is being met currently.

Assistance from World Bank for Production of Natural Gas

*763 SHRI V.S. VIJAYARAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have received any financial assistance from

the World Bank for the production of natural gas; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The World bank has sanctioned loans of US $ 139.3 million for the South Bassein Development Gas Project, US $ 283.25 million for the Western Gas Development Project and US $ 450 million for the Gas Flaring Reduction Project.

Coal Reserves in North Eastern Region

*764 SHRI PRATAPRAO B. BHONSLE: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Mine Planning and Design Institute Limited has identified coal reserves in the North Eastern region;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of the category of coal found in the region; and

(d) the utilisation programmes proposed for these reserves?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI P.A. SANGMA): (a) to (c). The Geological Survey of India (GSI) undertakes 'Regional Exploration' for the purpose of identification of coal reserves in the country. GSI has assessed a coal reserve of 864.78 million tonnes as on 1/1/91 in the North Eastern Region. The Central Mine Planning and Design Institute Limited' (CMPDIL) undertake 'Detailed Exploration' for proving of coal reserves for the purpose of mine planning. The Category-wise coal reserves as on 1/1/91 in the North Eastern Region are:

Proved Category	257.03 million tonnes
Indicated Category	149.29 million tonnes
Inferred Category	458.46 million tonnes
Total :	864.78 million tonnes

(d) The production of coal in the North Eastern Coalfields was 6.79 lakh tonnes during the year 1990-91. The targets of coal production for the years 1991-92 and 1994-95 has been fixed as 6.80 and 9.00 lakh tonnes respectively which will meet existing demand of the industries such as cement, paper, bricks, and other industries of the region. Some quantity of coal from Margherita area of Coal India Limited, are supplied to steel plants for blending purposes.

Late Arrival of Domestic Flights

*765. SHRI K. THULASIAH VANDAYAR: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that all domestic flights are invariably delayed; and

(b) if so, the corrective measures taken/proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b). No, Sir. The punctuality of the operations is being closely monitored and timely remedial steps are taken to improve the on-time performance of the airlines. However, there are factors beyond the control of the airlines which often affect the punctuality of their operations. As a result of the steps taken, the punctuality rate of Indian Airlines has improved from an average of